



Co-Chairs:

Mary Nelson  
Iowa Dept. of Human Services

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Iowa Judicial Branch

## **Iowa Child and Family Services Stakeholder Panel Membership Guidelines**

The Department of Human Services Division of Child and Family Services and the Iowa Judicial Branch created the Child and Family Services Stakeholder Panel in 2006 to more actively seek input from a diverse group of Iowans who have a stake in the child welfare system. The Stakeholder Panel acts as an advisory group to DHS and the Judicial Branch regarding goals, outcome measures, and achievements related to child safety and permanency and general system-wide issues.

Stakeholder Panel members will be asked to serve a term of two years. The Stakeholder Panel meets every other month in Des Moines and is co-chaired by the Director of Child and Family Services and the Director of the Supreme Court's Court Improvement Project. The Panel membership is represented by a diverse group of individuals and organizations; recommended panel membership is included on page two of this document.

### **Additional Guidelines:**

- Members who participate through their employment will not be reimbursed for expenses for attendance at meetings.
- Members who participate without benefit of employment sponsorship (i.e., children, birth parents, and resource families) are eligible for stipends and expense assistance depending on their circumstances and available funds.
- If a member is unable to attend a meeting, a substitute is allowed to attend in his/her place, and it is expected that the member will prepare the substitute with necessary materials and background information prior to the meeting.
- The term limit of membership is two years, with the exception of those memberships which are connected to a specific position within an organization (those organizations are indicated with \* on the Recommended Panel Membership).
- The Panel will seek to replace a member of the panel if the member misses more than two meetings in one year.

## **Iowa Child and Family Services Panel Recommended Panel Membership**

### **Consumers**

Youth (4-6)  
Birth Parents (4-6)  
Foster Parents (2)  
Kinship Care Providers (3)  
Adoptive Parents (2)

### **Court**

District Associate Judge (1)  
Associate Juvenile Judge (1)  
Chief Juvenile Court Officer (1)  
Juvenile Court Officer (1)

### **Legal Representatives**

County Attorney (1)  
Parents' Attorney (1)  
Assistant Attorney General (1)\*  
Guardian ad litem (1)  
Middleton Legal Clinic (1)\*  
Division Administrator, Dept. (1)\*  
Iowa Child Advocacy Board (1)

### **DHS**

Transition Planning Specialist (1)  
Service Area Manager or SW Admin (1)  
Social Work Supervisor (1)  
Social Worker II or III (1)  
Toledo Juvenile Home (1)

### **Providers**

Large multi-service child welfare agency (1)  
PMIC (1)  
In-home family support agency (1)  
Youth development org (1)  
Community mental health/substance abuse provider (1)  
Community Care (1)  
Family centered agency (1)  
Shelter care agency (1)

### **Public Interest Groups**

Child and Family Policy Center  
NASW Director (1)\*  
Youth Policy Institute (1)

### **Domestic Violence**

Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (1)

### **Community Partners**

Tribal representatives (4)  
Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (1)  
Decat coordinator (1)  
Faith community (1)  
Child Protection Center (1)

### **State Level Partners**

Coalition for Family & Children's Services (1)\*  
University of Iowa – School of Social Work (1)\*  
AG-DEC (1)\*  
Children & Family Services, Department of Education (1)\*  
Executive Director, Iowa Foster & Adoptive Parents Association (1)\*  
Director, Prevent Child Abuse Iowa (1)\*  
Division Administrator, Substance Abuse, Department of Public Health (1)\*  
Iowa Plan (1)\*  
Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (1)\*  
Department of Human Rights – Division of Latino Affairs (1)\*  
Department of Human Rights – Commission on the Status of African Americans (1)\*  
MHRDDBI Commission (1)